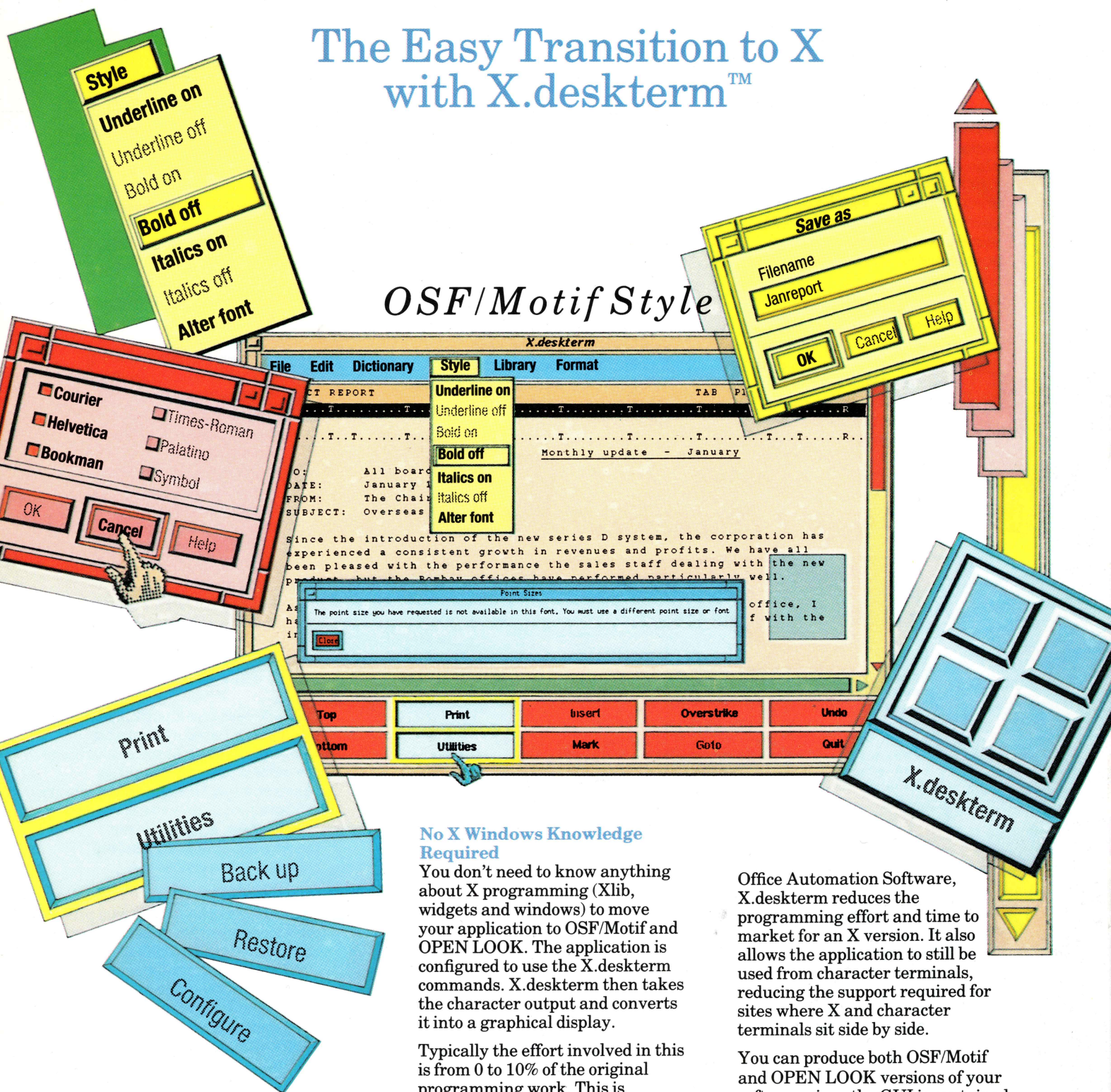


# The Easy Transition to X with X.desktop™

## OSF/Motif Style



### No X Windows Knowledge Required

You don't need to know anything about X programming (Xlib, widgets and windows) to move your application to OSF/Motif and OPEN LOOK. The application is configured to use the X.desktop commands. X.desktop then takes the character output and converts it into a graphical display.

Typically the effort involved in this is from 0 to 10% of the original programming work. This is certainly quicker and much less costly than redesigning the existing application to work directly with X. X.desktop can also be used to add a graphical front-end to software written in languages which do not have an X library (such as COBOL or FORTRAN) or which run on operating systems such as Pick which do not support X directly. X.desktop exploits the existing skills of your organization in character-based programming.

### Ideal for major Applications

Experience has shown that with a major application such as Uniplex

Office Automation Software, X.desktop reduces the programming effort and time to market for an X version. It also allows the application to still be used from character terminals, reducing the support required for sites where X and character terminals sit side by side.

You can produce both OSF/Motif and OPEN LOOK versions of your software since the GUI is contained entirely within X.desktop. The switch from OSF/Motif to OPEN LOOK can be made by simply using a different version of X.desktop, with no changes to the application.

In cases where access to the application source code is not possible, X.desktop filter modules can be added which interpret information that the application is sending to the display.

The vast majority of UNIX applications are character-based, unable to take advantage of user friendly graphical user interfaces such as OSF/Motif™ and OPEN LOOK™... until now.

IXI has developed X.desktop, an intelligent terminal emulator, rich in functionality, that provides an easy transition to the X Window System™. Using X.desktop, software can now run in a windowed, mouse-driven graphical environment featuring pull-down menus, scroll bars, dialog boxes, resizable windows, cut and paste, multiple fonts and colors.

Help

OK



## X.desktop Architecture

X.desktop is an intelligent terminal emulator driven by character-based applications. Character output, scrolling and screen control work just as a character terminal works, with some novel extensions to allow sophisticated screen effects to be achieved.

The graphical facilities of X.desktop are also controlled by escape sequences. User actions such as mouse clicks and menu selections may be reported back to the application as escape sequences

Many of these sequences may be configured to reduce the need for changes to applications. Applications which use the UNIX termcap or terminfo facilities can provide mouse controlled buttons and menus by using a modified terminal definition.

Using high level definitions, the application developer instructs X.desktop about the types of mouse clicks and drags the application is interested in. X.desktop interprets these X mouse events and filters out those which are not useful to the application.

## X.desktop features:

- Screen control functions
- Scrolling area
- Multiple fonts - up to 16 simultaneously
- Proportional fonts fully supported
- Full 8 bit character set support
- Color
- Optional VT100 emulation
- Line drawing and shading characters
- Mouse clicks and drags
- Cut and paste facilities
- Scrollbars - enable/disable/configure
- Buttons - enable/disable/configure
- Menus - enable/disable/configure
- Status line
- Bitmap display - for pictures and logos
- Dynamic "sensitive fields" on display
- Links to IXI's X.desktop
- Fully ICCCM compliant
- Communication with ICCCM compliant window managers

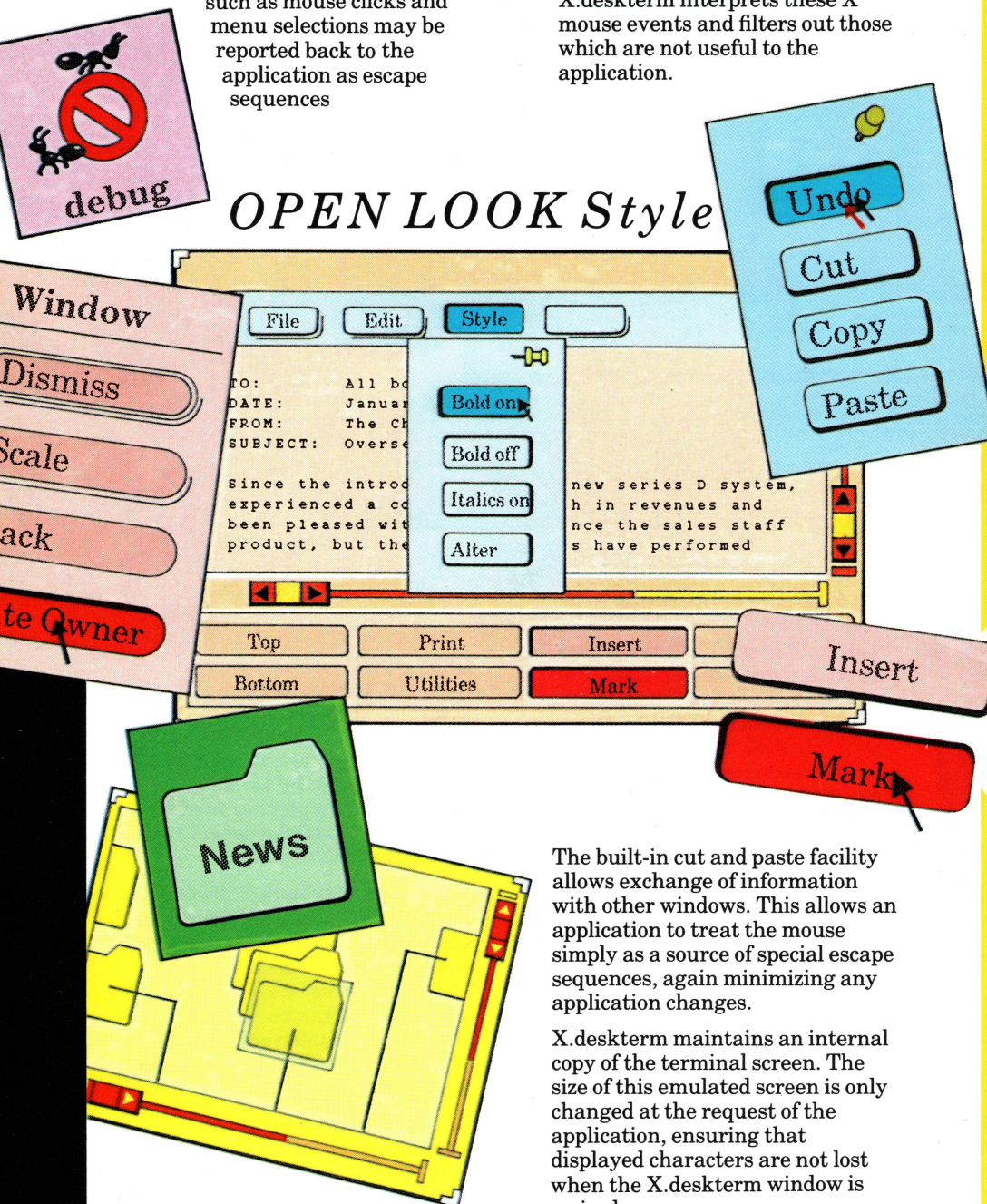
X.desktop is compatible with any X.desktop-based system and allows character based applications to control the user's desktop environment for enhanced usability. Programs can now use icons and the desktop drag-and-drop metaphor, simply by sending character sequences to X.desktop.

X.desktop is available as a pre-linked application or as a C library for extension, customization and building new terminal emulations. The X.desktop library allows the behavior of X.desktop to be customized for different applications. An example of this is the mouse-driven front-end to the Unix editor vi, which is provided with X.desktop.

Currently supported platforms include Sun 3, Sun 4, 386/ix and NCR Tower. Contact IXI for availability on other systems.

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## OPEN LOOK Style



The built-in cut and paste facility allows exchange of information with other windows. This allows an application to treat the mouse simply as a source of special escape sequences, again minimizing any application changes.

X.desktop maintains an internal copy of the terminal screen. The size of this emulated screen is only changed at the request of the application, ensuring that displayed characters are not lost when the X.desktop window is resized.